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Message Text

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42
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
---------- 073456
P R 101325Z APR 75
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1102
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 5205

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 USNATO 1952

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, MASS, NATO, TU
SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLIES FOR TURKEY

REF: A. USNATO 1536
B. USNATO 1807
C. ANKARA 2727
D. STATE 069099
E. STATE 077479

SUMMARY. IN PRIVATE MEETING OF DPC PERMREPS ON APRIL 9, TURKISH AMBASSADOR (ERALP), ON INSTRUCTIONS, MADE ESSENTIALLY POINTS CONTAINED REF C. HE DIVIDED TURKISH MILITARY EQUIPMENT NEEDS INTO TWO PARTS: (1) URGENT REQUIREMENTS (SUCH AS SPARE PARTS) NEEDED TO MAINTAIN ARMED FORCES, AND (2) LONGER TERM NEEDS TO SATISFY FORCE GOALS. HE SAID HE WOULD CIRCULATE A LIST CONTAINING ITEMS FROM THE FIRST CATEGORY SO THAT EXPERTS COULD COMPARE THEM AGAINST THEIR INVENTORIES. DPC AGREED THAT ASYG HUMPHREYS SHOULD CONVENE A GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM DPC DELEGATIONS TO EXAMINE THE LIST AND DISCUSS MEANS BY WHICH URGENT TURKISH NEEDS COULD BE MET BY HER ALLIES. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS BEGAN MEETING BY REFERENCE TO EXAMINATION AT EARLIER MEETING (REF A) OF ADMIRAL HILL-NORTON'S PRELIMINARY REPORT ON EFFECT OF US AID CUT-OFF. HE NOTED THAT TWO WEEKS HAS PASSED
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AND SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SOME COUNTRIES HAD BEEN ABLE TO TAKE STEPS IN THE MEANTIME. ERALP (TURKEY) THEN MADE PRESENTATION ALONG LINES REF C, IN WHICH HE NOTED THAT TURKEY AND THE AL-LIANCE WERE FACED WITH TWO PARALLEL PROBLEMS IN THE AFTERMATH

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OF THE "US EMBARGO". HE SAID THE FIRST WAS THE IMMEDIATE NEED TO ENABLE TURKEY TO MAINTAIN HER ARMED FORCES, AND SAID HE WOULD CIRCULATE A LIST OF SPARE PARTS AND OTHER EQUIPMENT ADDRESSED TO THIS URGENT PROBLEM. HE SAID THE SECOND, LONGER TERM, PROBLEM WAS TO ASSESS HOW TURKEY WOULD SATISFY HER FORCE GOALS IN THE FACE OF THE US EMBARGO. HE REFERRED TO THE DORMANT SUBGROUP OF THE EXECUTIVE WORKING GROUP ON AID TO TURKISH LOCAL FORCES, AND SUGGESTED THAT IT OR ANOTHER GROUP BE CONVENED TO DEAL WITH SECOND PROBLEM HE ASKED THAT EUROPEAN ALLIES PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A GROUP TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO FULFILL TURKEY'S LONGER RANGE NEEDS, BUT SAID THE FIRST, MORE URGENT PROBLEM SHOULD NOT BE PUT ASIDE, BUT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH THE SECOND.

2. SYG LUNS AGREED WITH THE IDEA OF CIRCULATING A LIST AND SAID A GROUP SHOULD BE CONVENED PROMPTLY TO STUDY IT. HE ADDED HE HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT THE FRG IS TAKING ACTION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY, NOT ONLY BY CONTINUING ITS REGULAR PROGRAM OF MILITARY AID, BUT ALSO BY PROVIDING ITEMS FROM ITS OWN WAR STOCKS FOR TURKEY. HE SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THE FRG PLANNED TO MOVE QUICKLY ON THIS, AND COULD SIMPLY INFORM THE APPROPRIATE PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES, RATHER THAN SEEKING FORMAL LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL. KRAPF (FRG) SAID THAT HE HAD IN FACT NOT REPEAT NOT BEEN AUTHORIZED TO MAKE SUCH AN ANNOUNCEMENT, AND ASKED THAT AMBASSADORS USE GREAT DISCRETION IN REPORTING THIS INFORMATION, SINCE IT COULD BE USED IN A WAY HARMFUL TO THE FRG EFFORT.

3. LUNS THEN REPORTED THAT THE US SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE HAD FAVORABLY REPORTED OUT A PROPOSAL TO "SUSPEND THE SUSPENSION" OF US AID TO TURKEY, WHICH HE REGARDED AS A PROMISING SIGN. ERALP INTERVENED TO URGE THAT COUNTRIES NOT COUNT ON THE LIFTING OF THE US "EMBARGO". HE REFERRED TO SENATOR JAVITS' PROPOSAL FOR RESUMPTION OF $50 MILLION WORTH OF AID (REF D) AND NOTED THAT THIS WOULD NOT DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM OF SALES. HE SAID THAT TURKEY WITH ITS MILITARY EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS, NOT SIMPLY AS AID TO TURKEY, BUT TO FILL GAP IN ALLIANCE

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DEFENSES. HE AGREED THAT A COMMITTEE COULD AND SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER IMMEDIATELY, BUT URGED SPEED IN DEALING WITH THE PROBLEM. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE FRG'S MOVE, AND HOPED THAT OTHER COUNTRIES, "IN THE MEASURE OF THEIR POSSIBILITIES", WOULD EITHER GIVE OR MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR TURKEY TO PURCHASE SPARE PARTS. SYG LUNS AGREED THAT THIS WAS NOT SIMPLY A TURKISH PROBLEM, BUT AN ALLIED PROBLEM, AND SAID HE BELIEVED THERE WAS A CONSENSUS TO THIS EFFECT AND THAT THERE ARE NO BARRIERS AGAINST ALLIED ASSISTANCE TO TURKEY. BRUCE (US) AGREED WITH ERALP THAT IT WOULD BE A MISTAKE TO BANK ON HAVING THE SUSPENSION OF US MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND SALES TO TURKEY END QUICKLY IF AT ALL UNDER EXISTING CONDITIONS. HE SAID IT WAS MORE LIKELY THAT THE MATTER WOULD

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TAKE TIME, AND THAT THE ALLIES SHOULD NOT BASE ANY EXPECTATIONS
ON A "SUSPENSION OF THE SUSPENSION" WITHIN A REASONABLE PERIOD
OF TIME.

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED SECDEF.

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ACTION SS-25

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---------- 073591
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1103
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4. ASYG HUMPHREYS POINTED OUT THAT THE EXISTING EWG SUBGROUP
WAS SET UP TO DEAL NOT ONLY WITH AID TO TURKISH FORCES, BUT
TO GREEK FORCES AS WELL. HE ADDED THAT THE SUBGROUP IS OPEN
ENDED, AND THAT NOT ALL COUNTRIES WERE PARTICIPATING. HE
SUGGESTED THAT A WIDER GROUP SHOULD BE CONVENED. THE DPC
AGREED THAT A GROUP OF REPRESENTATIVES OF DPC COUNTRIES SHOULD
BE CONVENED SOON TO STUDY THE TURKISH EQUIPMENT LIST AND TO
SEEK WAYS TO DEAL WITH TURKISH NEEDS. IT WAS ALSO AGREED THAT
DELEGATIONS SHOULD FORWARD THE LIST TO THEIR CAPITALS SO THAT
THE PROBLEM COULD BE EXAMINED THERE AS WELL. (COMMENT: MISSION
WILL FORWARD LIST AS SOON AS AVAILABLE.)

5. MENZIES (CANADA) WONDERED WHAT THE ATTITUDE OF THE US CONGRESS
WOULD BE CONCERNING THE SUPPLY OF SPARE PARTS BY OTHER ALLIES
TO MEET TURKISH NEEDS. HE MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS ADDRESSING
HIMSELF NOT TO THE LEGAL BUT TO THE POLITICAL QUESTION, AND
IMPLIED THAT HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT WHAT US CONGRESSIONAL
SENTIMENT TOWARD CANADA MIGHT BE IF CANADA DID WHAT CONGRESS
HAD FORBIDDEN THE US GOVERNMENT TO DO. SYG LUNS SAID THAT HE
HAD DISCUSSED THIS GENERAL QUESTION WITHT EH PRESIDENT AND
OTHERS DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO WASHINGTON, AND HAD GAINED
THE IMPRESSION THAT, WHILE CONGRESS MAY FIND IT DIFFICULT TO
REVERSE ITSELF ON THIS QUESTION, ALLIED ACTIONS TO HELP TURKEY
WOULD NOT BE VIEWED IN THE SAME LIGHT. AMBASSADOR ERALP AGREED,
NOTING THAT CONGRESS HAS CALLED ONLY ON THE US GOVERNMENT NOT
TO SUPPLY MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO TURKEY, BUT HAS NOT EXPRESSED
ITSELF ON THE QUESTION OF AID BY OTHERS.
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6. AMBASSADOR BRUCE DREW ON REF E TO PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION ON US LEGAL SITUATION CONCERNING AID TO TURKEY. AT AMBASSADOR ERALP'S REQUEST, HE AGREED TO SUPPLY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REF E TO THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF AND TO TURIISH DELEGATION. KRAPF (FRG POINTED OUT THAT IN MANY CASES IT IS NOT SIMPLY THE LEGAL QUESTION WHICH GOVERNS BUT FINANCIAL AND AVAILABILITY QUESTIONS, AS WELL. HE ADDED THAT THERE ARE FREQUENTLY MINOR DIFFERENCES IN EQUIPMENT WHICH WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO SATISFY SPECIFIC TURKISH REQUIREMENTS FROM STOCKS OF OTHER ALLIES.

7. SYG LUNS CONCLUDED THE MEETING BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD AWAIT NEWS FROM ASYG HUMPHREYS ABOUT THE DATE AND TIME OF THE SPECIAL GROUP TO BE CONVENED TO DEAL WITH TURKISH EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS.
BRUCE

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